

Dear FCC Chairman Powell and Commissioners,

In exchange for using the public airwaves, TV broadcasters should serve the public interest. In a well-functioning democracy a crucial aspect of the public interest is to provide information about the positions of candidates for public office. But most TV broadcasters do a miserable job of performing this task. Local stations provide particularly terrible coverage. Viewers of local TV news are given so little useful information that they typically don't know even the basic facts about who is running for office and the candidates' positions on issues.

TV broadcasters must begin to provide clear, factual stories on political candidates and their positions on important issues. Since they seem unwilling to do this on their own, the FCC should define public interest requirements. At a minimum, broadcasters should be required to air three hours per week of local civic and electoral affairs programming, with at least two hours devoted to substantive election coverage in the six weeks prior to Election Day.

Sincerely,

Randy Schutt
305 Overlook Park Drive
Cleveland, OH 441101235